

fit in said gas supply channel and additional channels, and an inlet end provided with hose couplings for connecting hoses to each of said connecting channels.

23. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 21, in which said connecting device also has a conductor opening through which a cathode conductor extends for connection to a voltage source.

24. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 2, in which said housing is connected to hoses for supplying gas and any desired function to the additional channels, which hoses are connected, at their other end, to a connector for connection to a supply unit.

25. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 1, which comprises a handle portion that at least partially encloses said housing to allow easy handling of the device.

26. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 20, which comprises a circuit adapted to distinguish the device type by means of the resistance of an indication component.

27. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 1, which has a first button for switching the plasma generator on and off.

28. (Previously Presented) A plasma surgical device according to claim 27, which, for increased reliability, has a second button.

29. (Cancelled)

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim. Claim 17 is amended to correct a minor informality. Claim 29 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is added.

Entry of Amendment After Final Rejection

Entry of the Amendment is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 because the Amendment: a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; b) does not present any additional claims without canceling the corresponding number of final rejected claims; and/or c) places the application in better form for an appeal, if an appeal is necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Allowed/Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-16 and 18-29 are allowed and that claim 17 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. As claim 17 is amended, all claims are in condition for allowance.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) because they must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims, specifically claim 29. In view of the cancellation of claim 29, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Claim Objections

Claim 29 is objected to because of informalities. In view of the cancellation of claim 29, this rejection is now moot. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 29 be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the amendments to claim 17 in amending the term "electrode, electrode" to read "electrode," claim 17 is allowable.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

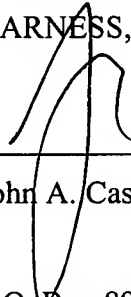
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By



John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

JAC/JWF/mat